

C. B. Young, Esq. 29 Jan. 1846.

CATALOGUE

OF A

VALUABLE COLLECTION

OF

MEXICAN ANTIQUITIES,

IN

THE HIGHEST STATE OF PRESERVATION,

FROM THE ANCIENT CITIES

OF

TEZCOCO, TEZCOSINGO & CHALCO,

COLLECTED UNDER THE PERSONAL SUPERINTENDENCE,

AND THE PROPERTY OF

CHARLES B. YOUNG, ESQ.

OF THE CITY OF MEXICO.

WHICH WILL BE SOLD BY AUCTION,

BY MESSRS.

S. LEIGH SOTHEBY & CO.

AUCTIONEERS OF LITERARY PROPERTY AND WORKS ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE FINE ARTS,

AT THEIR HOUSE, 3, WELLINGTON STREET, STRAND,

On THURSDAY, the 29th day of JANUARY, 1846,
at ONE o'Clock precisely.

May be Viewed Two Days previous to the Sale, and Catalogues had.

J. DAVY & SONS, Printers, 137, Long Acre.

1846
Jan 29
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CONDITIONS OF SALE.

- I. The highest bidder to be the buyer; and if any dispute arise between two or more bidders; the lot so disputed shall be immediately put up again.
- II. No person to advance less than 1s.; above Five Pounds 2s. 6d.; and so on in proportion.
- III. The Purchasers to give in their Names and Places of Abode, and to pay down 5s. in the Pound, if required, in part of payment of the Purchase-money; in default of which, the Lot or Lots purchased to be immediately put up again and re-sold.
- IV.—The Sale of any lot is not to be set aside on account of any error in the enumeration of the numbers stated, or errors of description.
- V. The Lots to be taken away at the Buyer's Expence, immediately after the Conclusion of the Sale; in default of which, S. Leigh Sotheby & Co. will not hold themselves responsible if lost, stolen, damaged or otherwise destroyed, but they will be left at the sole risk of the Purchaser. If at the expiration of Two DAYS after the conclusion of the Sale, the Lots are not cleared or paid for, they will then be catalogued for immediate sale, and the expence, the same as if re-sold, will be added to the amount at which they were bought. S. Leigh Sotheby & Co. will have the option of re-selling the Lots uncleared either by public or private sale, without any notice being given to the defaulter.
- VI. Upon failure of complying with the above conditions, the money required or deposited in part of payment shall be forfeited; and *if any loss is sustained in the re-selling of such lots as are not cleared or paid for, all charges on such re-sale shall be made good by the defaulter at this sale.*

Gentlemen who cannot attend the Sale, may have their Commissions faithfully executed by their humble Servants,

S. LEIGH SOTHEBY & JOHN WILKINSON
Wellington Street, Strand.

PREFACE.

THE following Collection of Antiquities were discovered during the last year, among the sepulchral ruins of the ancient cities of Tezcoco, Tezcosingo, and Chalco, which are known to have been places of consequence when the Spaniards invaded the country, during the rule of Montezuma, and were remarkable for the splendour of their palaces, gardens, baths, promenades, &c. The two Cinerary Vases, lots 70 and 71, are considered highly valuable, even in Mexico, being destined to receive the ashes of persons of the highest rank exclusively, and are rarely to be obtained. The superstitious dread of disturbing the ashes of the dead, entertained by the present Indian tribes, is an additional obstacle to discovery, and it is only penury or avarice which will induce them to aid in what they consider to be the desecration of their ancient sepulchres.

The proprietor of the Collection now offered for public sale, states in a letter of recent date, that there are French, German, Italian and Prussian agents employed in collecting antiquities for their respective governments; but the circumstance of there being no agent on the part of England, has operated with him as an inducement thus to make known to his countrymen the existence of such interesting relics of a now extinct but once great and powerful nation.

CATALOGUE

OF

MEXICAN ANTIQUITIES,

IN TERRA COTTA.

LOT

11	1	Seven small Figures of Deities	7	Coleman
8	2	Three others, larger	3	Webster
4	3	A flat grotesque Figure	1	Nightingale
7	4	A curious grotesque Figure	8 inches high.	1 Tennant
7	5	Another	1	Webster
6	6	Another	1	Tennant
6	7	Another	1	Webster
16	8	A curious Figure seated, supported by two Serpents, the tails of which are entwined round the arms	10 inches high.	1 Tennant
6	9	A Snake, coiled	1	Whelan
14	10	A Tobacco Pipe, <i>very curious, and in Mexico pronounced UNIQUE</i>	1	Tennant
12	11	A curious Whistle, terminating in a grotesque Head, <i>very rare</i>	1	Lord Albion Conyngham
8	12	A seated Figure of a Warrior, his head dress ornamented with a large plume of feathers; on the pedestal is an inscription in the ancient Mexican language; <i>very rare</i>	1	Tennant
13	13	A singular squatted Figure with grotesque head	1	Sim
3	14	A beautiful Patera, ornamented, but slightly mutilated	1	Tennant
15	15	Three grotesque Figures	3	Do
15	16	Three curious Figures of Deities	3	Webster
18	17	A Warrior seated, a Snake issuing from between his feet; <i>a fine and perfect figure</i>	1	Coleman
15	18	Four grotesque Figures	4	Tennant
2	19	A Head of a Rabbit, of a fine red glazed ware; <i>a remarkable specimen, though a fragment</i>	1	Do
5	20	Two small red Figures	2	

		9	12	"
Whelan	21 A Figure, resembling the "Virgin and Child"; <i>rude, but curious</i>	1	"	2
Ternant	22 A small Figure, <i>probably oracular</i>	1	"	5
Whelan	23 Two small Sacerdotal Figures	2	"	5
Crocker	24 A curious Figure, wearing an ornamental collar or order	1	"	6
Do	25 A Royal Personage, in a sitting posture	1	"	9
Ternant	26 A grotesque Figure, seated, the hands supporting the chin 8 inches high.	1	"	8
Crocker	27 A small Figure, with ornamented head dress	1	"	5
Ternant	28 A Royal Personage, seated; a small mask surmounts the diadem, another is on the breast, and one on each knee. This figure wears a species of sandals; <i>very curious and rare</i> 10 inches high.	1	"	10
Smith	29 A Priest, seated; <i>fine</i> 9 inches high.	1	"	19
Webster	30 A Rattle Snake, coiled up. It is hollow, and on being shaken emits a rattling sound; <i>very curious and rare, and of beautiful workmanship</i>	1	"	15
Lord A Conyngham	31 A Double Mask, hollow, and filled with clay pellets, probably a child's toy or rattle. <i>In the description sent from Mexico this is termed "unique"</i>	1	"	18
Ternant	32 A four-footed Patera, <i>curious</i>	1	"	6
Do	33 A curious small Vase	1	"	3
Smith	34 A singular double-cone Vase, ornamented with lizards, &c. 8 inches high.	1	"	10
Crocker	35 A beautiful Vase of red Terra Cotta, a snake twining round the neck; <i>a fine specimen</i> 8 inches high.	1	"	17
Ternant	36 The companion Vase	1	"	7
Crocker	37 A curious two-handled Patera, inscribed with Mexican characters; <i>rare and curious</i>	1	"	11
Ternant	38 A small, but singular, two-handled Cup	1	"	8
Cowcher	39 A splendid pitcher-shaped Libatory Vase, 11 inches high. <i>In perfection of form this may vie with the Etruscan; a most desirable specimen</i>	1	3	"
Lord a Conyngham	40 A four-footed Cinerary Vase or Urn, ornamented with masks; <i>quite perfect, and fine</i> 10 inches high, 31 inches in circumference.	1	1	10
Sotheby	41 A superb Vase or Cinerary Urn, of light colored Terra Cotta. The sides of this fine vase are adorned with human heads, Mexican inscriptions, and other subjects in compartments; the rim is also covered with Mexican characters. This collection	1	4	12

does not contain a more perfect, more extraordinary, or more desirable example of ancient Mexican art]

- | | | | | | |
|---|----|------|--|---|------------|
| | | | 13 inches high, 35 inches in circumference. | 1 | |
| " | 7 | " 42 | A very early and rude Statue, in porous or volcanic stone | | |
| | | | 13 inches high. | 1 | Edwards |
| " | 7 | " 43 | A very primitive looking Head of a Statue, of a similar material to the previous lot | 1 | Croker |
| " | 10 | " 44 | A pregnant and hump-backed Female Figure, making horrible grimaces; <i>very curious</i> | 1 | Whelan |
| " | 11 | " 45 | A round Vase of white Terra Cotta | | |
| | | | 8 inches high, 23 inches in circumference. | 1 | Tennant |
| " | 14 | " 46 | A beautiful, round, four-footed Vase, ornamented with snakes and human heads; <i>quite perfect</i> | | |
| | | | 8 inches high, 24 inches in circumference. | 1 | Webster |
| " | 17 | " 47 | A very remarkable Vessel or Patera, with two handles, ornamented with six human figures | | |
| | | | 12 inches long and 4 inches high. | 1 | Croker |
| 1 | 5 | " 48 | A large pitcher-shaped Vase of red Terra Cotta, with twisted handles, ornamented with human figures and snakes; <i>fine and perfect</i> | | |
| | | | 13 inches high. | 1 | Do |
| 1 | 10 | " 49 | A curious Vessel, of red Terra Cotta, in the form of a Toad; a <i>rare and fine specimen</i> | | |
| | | | 11 inches long. | 1 | Lord A. C. |
| " | 13 | " 50 | Another Vessel, of dark red Terra Cotta, the body of which is in the form of a Cock; <i>slightly mutilated, but very rare—</i> | | |
| | | | 10 inches high. | 1 | Croker |
| " | 19 | " 51 | A round Vase or Cinerary Urn, the neck encircled by two snakes, and 12 human figures round the body; <i>very fine</i> | | |
| | | | 8 inches high, 23 inches in circumference. | 1 | Tennant |
| 1 | 2 | " 52 | A light coloured Vase <i>with its cover</i> , ornamented with snakes and heads, and <i>partly fluted</i> ; the cover is surmounted with a grotesque bust, <i>finely executed—The height of the two objects is</i> | | |
| | | | 15 inches. | 1 | Webster |
| 2 | " | " 53 | A very large two-handled Vase, of bright red ware, highly ornamented with human heads and various reptiles. This magnificent specimen, the largest of the kind hitherto sent from Mexico, is 17 inches high, and 44 inches in circumference. | 1 | Tennant |
| 1 | 6 | " 54 | A four-footed Vase or Urn, ornamented with four large heads | | |
| | | | 12 inches high, 34 inches in circumference. | 1 | Cowcher |
| " | 12 | " 55 | A round Vase, ornamented with twenty-two grotesque heads and figures | | |
| | | | 12 inches high. | 1 | Webster |

<i>W for Knight</i>	56	A handsome four-footed Cinerary Urn, the feet representing the heads of sheep; round the body are four extremely well wrought human heads, wearing a melancholy expression, and four small figures in relief surround the neck; <i>very fine and perfect</i>	12 inches high.	1	3	1	"
<i>Croker</i>	57	A plain unornamented Patera or Bowl, such as are always found in the sepulchres of the poorer classes		1	"	7	"
<i>Toumaut</i>	58	A large round Urn, supposed to be of very early fabric, ornamented with rude figures in square compartments; the feet are gone, and it is otherwise slightly mutilated, but <i>very curious</i>	10 inches high, 35 inches in circumference.	1	1	1	"
<i>Croker</i>	59	A large grotesque Figure, <i>fine and curious</i>	14 inches high.	1	"	9	"
<i>Smis</i>	60	A sitting Figure, having animals heads on the knees		1	"	9	"
<i>Croker</i>	61	A small Figure of light red ware, apparently a Female and Child		1	"	6	"
<i>Toumaut</i>	62	A four-footed Patera of light colour, <i>fine</i>		1	"	14	"
<i>Smis</i>	63	A beautiful Vase, plain on the body, but two snakes encircle the neck, and the handles represent duck's heads; <i>a fine specimen</i>	8 inches high.	1	1	"	"
<i>Toumaut</i>	64	A very remarkable snake-footed Vase or Urn; on the sides are four panther or leopard heads, from the mouths of which human heads are issuing; the rim is elaborately ornamented; <i>fine and rare</i>	9 inches high.	1	1	1	"
<i>Webster</i>	65	A four-footed Vase, ornamented with reptiles and human figures	9 inches high.	1	"	13	"
<i>Do</i>	66	A curious pitcher-shaped Vase, probably libatory		1	"	14	"
<i>Do</i>	67	A large pitcher-shaped four-footed Vase	13 inches high.	1	"	"	"
<i>Croker</i>	68	A slender pitcher-shaped Vase, the body representing two grotesque heads, slightly mutilated	17 inches high.	1	"	17	"
<i>Smis</i>	69	A pair of small Vases, of good workmanship, but slightly mutilated		2	"	18	"
<i>Cowcher</i>	70	A large black two-handled Cinerary Urn, the body of which is grasped by the " <i>Hand of Power</i> "	12 inches high, 50 inches in circumference.	1	1	1	"
<i>Toumaut</i>	71	Another, precisely similar, except in size, <i>being</i>	16 inches high, 54 inches in circumference.	1	"	16	"
<i>Smis</i>	72	A small pitcher-shaped Vase, <i>handle broken</i>		1	"	9	"
<i>Do</i>	73	A handsome four-footed Vase or Urn, ornamented with eight figures round the body, some of them apparently winged; <i>fine and scarce</i>	10 inches high.	1	1	"	"

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- 1 3 " 74 A very ancient Cinerary Urn, ornamented in unique style; *very rare* 12 inches high. 1 *Cowcher*
- 1 18 " 75 A grotesque Figure in the form of a pitcher-shaped Vase, with large wings on the sides, and collar or necklace in front; *a very singular specimen* 13 inches high. 1 *to King*
- " 12 " 76 A Vase similar to the preceding, but smaller, and without wings on the sides, *but equally curious and fine* 1 *Croker*
- " 7 " 77 A two-handled Tripod Vase; one of the feet is wanting, and it is otherwise slightly mutilated 9 inches high. 1 *Do*
- " 9 " 78 A two-handled Tripod Vase, *mutilated* 12 inches high. 1 *Do*
- " 18 " 79 A large handsome pitcher-shaped Vase, with snake ornaments and curious heads; *very fine and uncommon* 14 inches high. 1 *Cowcher*
- 1 15 " 80 A fine four-footed two-handled Vase or Urn, in good preservation 12 inches high, 34 inches in circumference. 1 *Smith*
- " 18 " 81 A singular pitcher-shaped Libatory Vase, with snake-headed feet, and three grotesque masks round the body; *very rare* 13 inches high. 1 *Do*
- 1 18 " 82 A pitcher-shaped Tripod Vase, the mouth formed like that of a Toad, with human hands, &c.; *fine and rare* 16 inches high, 34 inches in circumference. 1 *Do*
- 1 8 " 83 A round four-footed two-handled Urn, ornamented with snakes, &c.; *very fine and curious, but wants one handle* 12 inches high, 33 inches in circumference. 1 *Knight*
- " 10 " 84 A curious round Vase or Urn, beautifully ornamented with heads and figures, but somewhat mutilated 1 *Croker*
- " 10 " 85 A pitcher-shaped Vase, of beautiful workmanship, *mutilated* 9 inches high. 1 *Do*
- " 9 " 86 A seated grotesque Figure, with small human heads on the shoulders 11 inches high. 1 *H. P. H.*
- 1 5 " 87 A seated grotesque Figure, with sandals on the feet; *very curious* 12 inches high. 1 *Do*
- " 7 " 88 Small Figures and various Fragments *Croker*

£69.17.6

THE END.

8. 11. 7 21 Sale Chas. 12 1/2% S. L. S. 10th May 1870

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Cased - packing - conveyance to the coast, shipping charges, insurance, freight, loading charges in England.

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